

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 were pending prior to this Response. By the present communication, no claims have been added, claims 3 and 18 have been canceled without prejudice, and claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 11 and 15 have been amended to recite Applicant's invention with greater particularity. Paragraphs [0008], [0010], [0021], [0032], [0038] and [0043] of the specification are amended herein. Amended Figures 1, 2A-2D, 3A and 3B are provided in Exhibit A as replacement formal drawings. The amendments do not raise any issues of new matter. Support for the term "guide" in claim 5 may be found at paragraph [0009]. Support for the phrase "device for flushing" may be found, among others, at paragraphs [0010] and [0020]. Support for the phrase "hydraulically connected to" in claim 11 may be found at paragraph [0002]. The claim amendments do not constitute new matter, being fully supported by the Specification and original claims. Furthermore, the amendments to paragraph [0008] are supported, for example, by paragraph [0035] as filed. The amendments to paragraph [0010] are supported, for example, by Figure 3A and paragraph [0018]. The amendments to paragraph [0021] are supported, for example, by paragraph [0010] as filed. The amendments to paragraph [0032] and [0038] are supported for example by Figure 3A. The amendments to paragraph [0043] are supported by Figure 3A and 3B, as well as paragraphs [0031]-[0033], [0035] and [0037]-[0039] as filed. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 4-17, 19 and 20 are currently pending in this application.

Objections to the Drawings

The Office Action objects to the drawings because allegedly proper drawing corrections were not submitted that include cross-hatching in Figures 1 and 2 (citing the requirement for red-lined drawings and a separate letter to the draftsman (MPEP 608.02 (r) and (v))). Specifically, the Office Action alleges that the cross-hatching would not be acceptable since items such as the "outlet(s)" and "siphon(s)" are passages rather than solid surfaces. Applicants respectfully submit that Figure 1 shows a cross-section of the toilet. Accordingly, it is appropriate to cross-hatch not only the pipes, but the inner part of the bowl because these are all indicative of solid surfaces. Furthermore, the Office Action alleges that the legends for Figs. 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, and 3B are missing, and that reference numerals "2," "3" and "4" denote

different elements between Figures 2 and 3, and that reference numeral "6" denotes different elements between Figures 1 and 3. 37 CFR §1.121, effective July 30, 2003, is silent with respect to providing red-lined sheets for a draftsman. It is also noteworthy that the requirement for annotated drawings is at the discretion of the Examiner.

Applicants have resubmitted replacement Figures 1 and 2A-2D with cross hatchings (Exhibit A). Furthermore, reference numerals "2," "3," "4," and "6" in Figures 1 and 2A-2B have been replaced with new numbers 202, 203, 204, and 210. An Annotated sheet showing the changes to the drawings has been submitted as Exhibit B. In addition, a red-lined sheet showing the changes in red ink is attached to the letter to the draftsman, filed herewith.

Regarding legends for Figures 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, and 3B, the legends were provided on page 2 of the Response mailed April 24, 2003. These legends for the figures are found in paragraphs 24, 26-29, and 43. Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of the objection to the drawings.

Objections to the Specification

The Examiner objects to the specification alleging at page 4 of the Office Action that the claimed device appears to rely upon the partition wall to distinguish the prior art. Specifically, the Examiner cites the Specification at paragraph 0002 as supporting the reliance upon the partition wall. Applicant respectfully traverses this objection.

Paragraph 0002 states that "[s]tate-of-the-art urine separating toilets are equipped with a partition wall between the front urine outlet and the back faecal outlet area, thus dividing the toilet bowl into two hydraulically unconnected partial-bowls, related to the two levels of the outlets." However, in the context of the discussion at paragraph 0004, the partition wall is disclosed as a disadvantage to the currently available (i.e., state-of-the-art) urine separating toilets because the partition wall prevents the urine outlet area from being flushed, "and thus the toilet paper...cannot be transported to the faecal outlet by means of flushing." (see Specification at paragraph 0004). Thus, the present device is "constructed *without* a partition wall between the urine and faecal outlets in such a way, that the whole bowl can be cleaned

during flush operation....” (see Specification at paragraph 0001). Applicant respectfully submits that the absence of the partition wall is part of the inventive subject matter. One of skill in the art would understand from the teachings of the Specification and the wording of the claims that the device does not rely upon a partition wall. Consequently, inclusion of the partition wall in the figures is deemed unnecessary, and removal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Examiner further objects to the specification due to the informalities listed on page 5 of the Office Action. Applicant has amended the specification at paragraphs 0008, 0032, 0038 and 0043 to correct the typographical errors. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the informalities identified by the Examiner have been corrected, and requests withdrawal of the objection.

The Examiner further objects to the specification as allegedly not providing proper antecedent basis for “device for flushing” set forth in claims 1 and 11, the “partition wall” set forth in claims 1, 3 and 13, and the “housed hydraulically” language set forth in claim 11. Furthermore, the Office Action asserts that claim terminology in mechanical cases should appear in the descriptive portion of the specification by reference to the drawings. Applicant respectfully traverses these objections.

With reference to the term “device for flushing,” Applicant submits that sufficient support exists in the specification as amended. Amended paragraph 0010, for example, states “the push-button (D) of the device for flushing (E)...,” indicating that the push-button is an integral part of the function of the device for flushing. Applicant reiterates that a device for flushing the entire toilet bowl of a toilet is the most commonly known mounting in a standard toilet (also known as a water closet) or a urine-separating toilet. For example, U.S. Pat. No. 5,873,136 (Exhibit E of the Response filed December 12, 2003) discloses a conventional flush control 22 (Col. 3, lines 52-62). Therefore, a device for flushing an entire toilet is well-known in the art. In fact all conceivable flushing devices may be used in conjunction with the invention. As previously argued, it is not necessary for a patent application to disclose that which is well-known in the art, and in fact it is preferable to omit what is well known in the art

(MPEP §2164). This is especially true in a predictable art, such as the present art. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully asserts that it is not necessary that the present specification disclose the details of a device for flushing an entire toilet, which is well-known and commonly used throughout the art. However, in order to further prosecution, Applicant has added a generalized “device for flushing” to Figure 3A, which is indicated by reference letter (E). Accordingly, Applicant submits that given the amendment to Figure 3A and the teaching of the specification (see, for example in paragraph [0012]), proper antecedent basis for the “device for flushing” exists, and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

With reference to the term “partition wall,” Applicant respectfully submits that this feature is *not* a feature included in the claimed device. As indicated in the specification, a partition wall is included in urine separating toilets known in the art, but is not included in at least certain aspects of the device for a urine separating toilet of the present invention. As discussed above, the present device is “constructed *without* a partition wall between the urine and faecal outlets in such a way, that the whole bowl can be cleaned during flush operation....” (see Specification at paragraph 0001). Therefore, a partition wall is not shown in the drawings.

With reference to the term “housed hydraulically,” Applicant has amended claim 11 to better define Applicant’s invention. Specifically, claim 11 was amended to recite that the urine outlet is in front of and hydraulically connected to the faecal outlet. Support for the amendment may be found at paragraph 0002 of the Specification, in which a disadvantage of the currently available urine separating toilets that include a partition wall is that the toilet bowl is divided “into two hydraulically unconnected partial-bowls....” Accordingly, Applicant submits that proper antecedent basis exists for the term “hydraulically connected,” and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Examiner further objects to the amendment to paragraph 0021 as filed on March 15, 2004, as allegedly being new matter. Applicant has amended paragraph 0021 to remove the term “the” and the reference numeral (3) in reference to “sensors.” Paragraph 0021 as originally filed recited “...said sensors in (2) can be utilized....” The “(2)” refers back to paragraph 0009, subsection (2), in which “one or more conceivable and/or actually on the

market available mechanical and or physical and/or chemical sensors” are described as useful features in an embodiment of the device. Paragraph 0021 was subsequently amended to remove the “(2)” and to assign one such conceivable sensor the reference numeral “(3).” As currently amended, paragraph 0021 refers to sensors, but does not provide for a reference numeral since the sensor is not claimed, nor is it shown in any of the Figures. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the amendment to paragraph 0021 does not constitute new matter, and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

The rejection of claims 1-6 and 11-16 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as allegedly containing subject matter which was not described in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention, is respectfully traversed. Specifically, the Examiner alleges that the specification does not teach one skilled in the art how cover C functions to control the urine outlet 2. It is noteworthy to mention that Roovac (Roediger) has built its toilet on the basis of the teaching of the instant specification. Accordingly, the “Excerpts from Roovac” were previously submitted to the Examiner as evidence that one of skill in the art would be enabled by the specification to make and used the invention.

"The amount of guidance or direction needed to enable an invention, is inversely related to the amount of knowledge in the state of the art as well as the predictability of the art." MPEP 2164.03 citing In re Fisher, 427 F.2d 833, 839 (CCPA 1970). A patent need not teach, and preferably omits, what is well known in the art. MPEP §2164.01 (citations omitted).

Specifically, with respect to cover “C”, the Examiner alleges that the claimed invention is insufficiently disclosed to enable one skilled to understand the structure of, and cooperation between the elements which comprise the invention. The Examiner further alleges that Applicant has acquiesced the finding that when the cover C is lifted including seal B, which opens the urine outlet, and including blocking-plug 11, the blocking-hole 12 is sealed by

blocking-plug 11, as disclosed in paragraph [0034]. However, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has failed to understand that the blocking plug 11 does not seal urine outlet 202. Blocking plug 11 serves the sole purpose of rendering locking shutter 13 immovable, thus preventing flush-button D from operating via axis 23, 15 and 17 (see paragraph [0016]). Urine outlet 202 is sealed by the urine outlet seal B (with integral cover C), and is opened via the device (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, B, and C) as described in paragraphs [0013]-[0014]. Please note that neither blocking plug 11 nor blocking shutter 13 are listed within the device for opening the urine outlet 202. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the specification satisfies the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, and respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

The Examiner further alleges with respect to claims 1 and 11 that the specification does not teach a "urine separating toilet... for separately collecting and draining faeces and urine." Applicants respectfully assert that the entire specification is directed toward a device for use with a urine separating toilet. As disclosed in paragraphs [0009] – [0018], invention provides a device for separately collecting and disposing of urine and faeces. If a person sits down on a toilet equipped with a device of the present invention, the urine outlet opens, and the toilet flushing is blocked. The feces falls into the rear part of the toilet bowl, whereas the urine rinses undiluted (i.e., water-free disposal) through the urine outlet. When the person rises, the urine outlet is sealed, and the flushing device can be operated again, flushing the entire toilet bowl. Thus, the present invention eliminates the need for a partition wall as is necessary in currently available urine-separating toilets.

The Examiner alleges that no ability to separate urine and feces has been disclosed, alleging that Fig. 1 illustrates the urine siphon and faecal siphon in communication with the same toilet bowl and noting claims 3 and 13. The Examiner is correct in maintaining that the urine siphon and faecal siphon are in communication with the same toilet bowl (i.e., no partition wall exists between the two siphons within the bowl). However, as indicated above, the device for opening the urine outlet, the device for closing the urine outlet, and the decoupling of the toilet-flushing mechanism, assure that urine enters the urine siphon whereas

faeces enters the faecal siphon (see e.g., paragraphs [0013] – [0016]). Furthermore, the Examiner alleges that it does not appear possible that urine rinses undiluted through the urine outlet because the outlet would be closed by plug 11. As discussed above, blocking plug 11 does not block or seal the urine outlet 202. Blocking plug 11 serves the sole purpose of rendering locking shutter 13 immovable, thus preventing flush-button D from operating via axis 23, 15 and 17 (see paragraph [0016]). Accordingly, the specification teaches how urine and feces are separated using the device of the present invention.

Regarding claims 1 and 11, the Examiner alleges that the recitation of “a device for flushing the entire toilet bowl,” is neither taught by the instant disclosure, nor evident by the Examiner. As previously argued, a device for flushing the entire toilet bowl of a toilet is the most commonly known mounting in a standard toilet (also known as a water closet) or a urine-separating toilet. Therefore, a device for flushing an entire toilet is well-known in the art. As indicated above, it is not necessary for a patent application to disclose that which is well-known in the art, and in fact it is preferable to omit what is well known in the art (MPEP §2164). This is especially true in a predictable art, such as the present art. However, in order to further prosecution, Applicant has added a generalized “device for flushing” to Figure 3A, which is indicated by reference letter (E) and shown by dashed lines. Accordingly, Applicant submits that given the amendment to Figure 3A and the teaching of the specification (see, for example paragraph [0012]), one skilled in the art would understand how to make and use a device for flushing the entire toilet bowl.

Regarding claims 1 and 13, the Examiner alleges that “wherein no partition wall is located between the urine outlet and the faecal outlet” is not defined in the originally filed disclosure and therefore lacks an adequate written description. The Examiner further alleges that Figure 2 illustrates a “partition wall” separating elements 2 and 3 (now amended as elements 202 and 203). Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner’s attention to paragraph [0001] wherein the specification teaches that the “toilet can be constructed without a partition wall between the urine and faecal outlets in such a way, that the whole bowl can be cleaned during flush operation....” As discussed above, the specification discloses that one of the

disadvantages with the currently available urine separating toilets is that the partition wall prevents the front urine outlet area from being flushed, and “thus the toilet paper, being disposed of in the front urine outlet mainly during women’s urination, cannot be transported to the faecal outlet by means of flushing.” (see paragraph [0004]). Applicant further directs the Examiner’s attention to paragraphs [0009] and [0027]-[0029], wherein the specification teaches that bulging protrusions (210) and (204) of the lateral walls of the device serve to guide the urine into the urine outlet. Applicant respectfully submits that no partition wall separates elements 202 and 203 (as amended).

Therefore, for all the above reasons Applicant asserts that one skilled in the art would understand that the inventor was in possession of the claimed invention at the time of filing. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

The rejection of claims 2, 6, 11, 12 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention, is respectfully traversed. Specifically, the Examiner alleges that claim 2 is unclear as to the limitation imparted by the term “feature,” claim 3 is redundant to claim 1, and claims 6 and 11 are unclear as to whether the “toilet” is intended to be part of the claimed combinations.

With regard to claim 2, the Examiner alleges that the disclosed feature includes elements also disclosed as part of the “device for opening.” Applicant has amended paragraph [0010] to remove element 14 from the device for opening the urine outlet. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 2 is now definite, and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

With regard to claim 3, Applicant has canceled claim 3 without prejudice, rendering the rejection moot.

With regard to claim 6, the Examiner alleges that it is unclear whether the “toilet” is intended to be part of the claimed combination since structure of the “device” is defined as being connected thereto, but no positive structural antecedent basis therefore has been defined.

Applicant has amended claim 6 to substitute the phrase “device for flushing” for the term “toilet.” Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 6 is now definite, and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

With regard to claim 11, the Examiner alleges that it is unclear whether the “toilet” is intended to be part of the claimed combination since structure of the “device” is defined as being connected thereto, but no positive structural antecedent basis therefore has been defined. Applicant has amended claim 11 to insert the term “bowl” after “toilet”. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 6 is now definite, and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 11, 13 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a)/(b)/(f) as being anticipated by Excerpts from Roevac. The Excerpts from Roevac were submitted to the Examiner as evidence that one of skill in the art would be enabled by the specification to make and used the invention. Applicant submits as Exhibit B (attached hereto) another excerpt from the same website (www.roevac.de) indicating that the “No-Mix-Toilet” was successfully introduced at the International Sanitary Exhibition ISH in Frankfurt, Germany on March 27-31, 2001, which post dates Applicant’s earliest priority date of October 4, 1999 (Germany 199 47 648.9). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the Excerpts from Roevac are not prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a)/(b)/(f), and requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1-5 and 11-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Geeham (U.S. Patent No. 5,873,136; hereinafter “Geeham”). Specifically, the Examiner alleges that Geeham discloses a device comprising a device for opening 18; a device for closing 52b; a device for flushing 22; “no partition wall”; a feature 65; and a toilet 10 including a urine outlet 58, a fecal outlet 30, a bowl 12 having protrusions and a seat. Applicants respectfully submit that the invention device for a urine separating toilet, as defined by amended claims 1 and 11, distinguish over the disclosure of Geeham by requiring:

- a) a device for opening the urine outlet *if a user sits down on the toilet bowl, sits down on the toilet seat, or tips the toilet seat backward,*
- b) a device for closing the urine outlet *if the user rises after the opening of the urine outlet or tips the toilet seat downward,* and
- c) a device for flushing the entire toilet bowl when the urine outlet is closed, wherein solids that remain around or upon the closed urine outlet can be transported with flushing water to the faecal outlet, wherein no partition wall is located between the urine outlet and the faecal outlet, and/or *wherein no liquids remain around or upon the closed urine outlet,* but all liquids are drained by the force of gravity into the faecal outlet.

Geeham discloses a two flush modality toilet wherein the bowl valve is simple and reliable and the urinal flush plumbing has minimal cross-sectional height. (Geeham, col. 2, lines 46-48). The Geeham toilet comprises a “bowl control valve 18 [that] is composed of a foot pedal 50 which is connected to the pivot rod 59, and a biasing spring 54 connected, a for example with an interior partition wall.” (Geeham, col. 5, lines 6-8). It is the bowl control valve 18 that controls actuation of the pop-up stopper 55 to drain whatever liquid is in the bowl. Applicant respectfully submits that Geeham is silent with regard to reference numeral 52b (which was cited by the Examiner). In fact, element 52 is the flange of the drain connector 49, which has a slot 52a for receiving therethrough the passageway 46. (Geeham, col. 6, lines 22-32). A flange as disclosed by Geeham cannot be used for closing an opening. The Examiner further alleges that Geeham comprises a “feature 65.” Again, Applicant respectfully submits that Geeham is silent with regard to reference numeral 65, and cannot speculate as to which reference numeral was intended.

Additionally, the Examiner alleges that “the Geeham opening and closing devices are capable of being used in the functionally recited manner.” (Office Action, page 11). Applicant submits that the functionality of Geeham cannot be used in the manner recited by Applicant’s specification. Geeham discloses that when the foot pedal 50 is depressed to a down position, the pop-up stopper is pushed upwards causing any liquid in the bowl to drain through the bowl

valve into the drain. Upon release of the foot pedal, the pop-up stopper is lowered, enabling water to be held in the trap. (Geeham, col. 5, lines 14-29). In contrast, Applicant's claimed device requires a device for opening the urine outlet *if a user sits down on the toilet bowl, sits down on the toilet seat, or tips the toilet seat backward* and a device for closing the urine outlet *if the user rises after the opening of the urine outlet or tips the toilet seat downward*. The opening and/or closing of the urine outlet is directly related to whether a user sits down on the toilet bowl, sits down on the toilet seat or tips the toilet set backward. There is no requirement to press a foot pedal, as in Geeham.

Furthermore, Geeham discloses that "when the urinal flush modality is selected, it is desired to only supply enough water to the bowl 12 to refill the trap 24." (Geeham, col. 5, lines 48-49). In contrast, Applicant's claimed device requires a device for flushing the entire toilet bowl wherein *no liquids remain around or upon the closed urine outlet*, but all liquids are drained by the force of gravity into the faecal outlet. When opened, the urine outlet receives undiluted urine (water-free disposal).

Anticipation under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) requires that the reference recite each and every element of the claims in a single document. Since Geeham fails to disclose each and every element of the invention methods, as defined by amended claims 1 and 11, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has failed to establish anticipation under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) over Geeham. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1-5 and 11-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Wilhelm (U.S. Patent No. 3,877,082; hereinafter "Wilhelm"). Specifically, the Examiner alleges that Wilhelm discloses a device comprising a device for opening 43; a device for closing 41; a device for flushing 5; "no partition wall"; a feature; and a toilet 1 including a urine outlet 22, a fecal outlet, a bowl 16 having protrusions and a seat. Applicants respectfully submit that the invention device for a urine separating toilet, as defined by amended claims 1 and 11, distinguish over the disclosure of Wilhem by requiring:

- a) a device for opening the urine outlet *if a user sits down on the toilet bowl, sits down on the toilet seat, or tips the toilet seat backward,*
- b) a device for closing the urine outlet *if the user rises after the opening of the urine outlet or tips the toilet seat downward,* and
- c) a device for flushing the entire toilet bowl when the urine outlet is closed, wherein solids that remain around or upon the closed urine outlet can be transported with flushing water to the faecal outlet, wherein no partition wall is located between the urine outlet and the faecal outlet, and/or *wherein no liquids remain around or upon the closed urine outlet,* but all liquids are drained by the force of gravity into the faecal outlet.

Wilhelm discloses a water saving toilet that uses a valved bypass connection in the weir of the trap to permit a choice of two liquid levels in the bowl. Of the two liquid levels within the bowl, the higher is generally used for defecation, and the lower for urination. In either instance, waste is deposited into water held within the bowl prior to flushing. Furthermore, Wilhelm discloses that “at the conclusion of the cycle clean water at the lower level exists but with the opening 22 in the weir of the trap firmly closed.” (Wilhelm, col. 4, lines 1-3). In contrast, Applicant’s claimed device requires a device for flushing the entire toilet bowl wherein *no liquids remain around or upon the closed urine outlet*, but all liquids are drained by the force of gravity into the faecal outlet. When opened, the urine outlet receives undiluted urine (water-free disposal).

Additionally, the Examiner alleges that “the Wilhelm opening and closing devices are capable of being used in the functionally recited manner.” (Office Action, page 12). Applicant submits that the functionality of Wilhelm cannot be used in the manner recited by Applicant’s specification. Wilhelm discloses that following urination, the user selects the appropriate flushing handle, which opens valve opening 22 and provides a lower-volume flush. The valve opening then recluses slowly under the force of the valve closure spring 41 being damped pneumatically by the operation of the air cylinder in which the spring is contained. (Wilhelm, col. 3, line 28 – col. 4, line 17). In contrast, Applicant’s claimed device requires a device for

opening the urine outlet *if a user sits down on the toilet bowl, sits down on the toilet seat, or tips the toilet seat backward* and a device for closing the urine outlet *if the user rises after the opening of the urine outlet or tips the toilet seat downward*. The opening and/or closing of the urine outlet is directly related to whether a user sits down on the toilet bowl, sits down on the toilet seat or tips the toilet set backward. There is no requirement to selects the appropriate flushing handle, as in Wilhelm.

Anticipation under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) requires that the reference recite each and every element of the claims in a single document. Since Wilhelm fails to disclose each and every element of the invention methods, as defined by amended claims 1 and 11, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has failed to establish anticipation under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) over Wilhelm. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

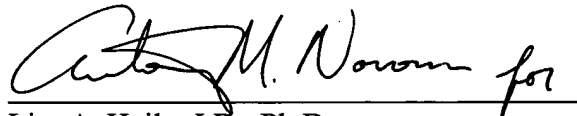
CONCLUSION

In summary, for the reasons set forth herein, Applicants maintain that claims 1, 2, 4-17, 19 and 20 clearly and patentably define the invention and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and pass the application to allowance. If the Examiner would like to discuss any of the issues raised in the Office Action, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned so that a prompt disposition of this application can be achieved.

Enclosed is Check No. 576627 in the amount of \$225.00 for the two (2) months Extension of Time fee. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge for any additional required fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 07-1896.

Respectfully submitted, *Reg. No. 45,517*

Date: March 29, 2005



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PATENT
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Exhibit A
Replacement Sheets 1-2

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Exhibit B

Excerpt from <http://www.roevac.de>



Roediger Vakuum + Haustechnik

● Home

● Company

● Range of Supply

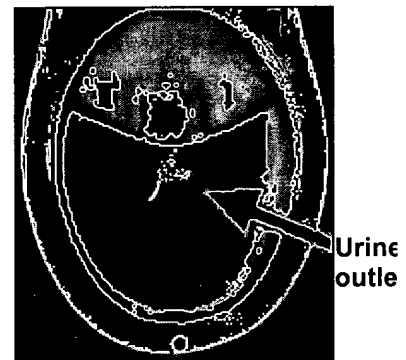
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→ News

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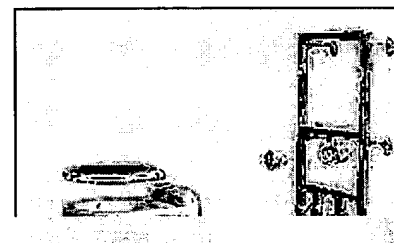
**Successful
 presentation of
 ROEVAC®
 Technology on the
 International Sanitary
 Exhibition ISH in
 Frankfurt/Main,
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 Exhibition novelty!**

**Roediger - No-Mix-
 Toilet** for the separation
 of urine.
 So "fluid waste" can be
 collected separately and
 then be recycled!
 Here you can see the toilet
 with the water-saving
 integrated urinal!



Vacuum sanitary technology

for the technical equipment
 inside buildings!
 Our technology enables the
 wastewater to flow
 upwards!
 We offer utmost
 flexible solutions due to the
 use of vacuum!
 Wastewater discharge
 independent from slope for
 new constructions



● **QuickNavigation**



Amendments to the Drawings

The attached replacement sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 1, 2A-2D and 3A. The replacement sheets, which include Figures. 1, 2A-2D, and 3A-3B, replace the original sheets, which include Figures 1, 2, and 3 and replacement Figures 1, 2A-2D, and 3A-3B, which were filed with the previous Response.

A copy of the replacement sheets (EXHIBIT A) is attached hereto. Since the previous figures were not entered, the following changes are indicated with respect to the originally-filed drawings. In Figure 1 and Figures 2A-2D, cross hatchings were added. In Figure 1 and figures 2A-2D the term "Schnitt" was replaced with figure numbers e.g., "FIG. 2A." In Figure 1 and Figures 2A-2B element numbers were changed. In Figure 3, the inset was relabeled as FIG. 3B and the large drawing was relabeled as FIG. 3A, with a change in one of the element numbers.

Attachment: (EXHIBIT A) Replacement Sheets